MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

MUD CREEK

MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

MUD CREEK CHURCH

JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALA., OCTOBER 14-16, 1892.

A List of Officers and Delegates appear in the Tabular Statement on Page 11.

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LITHOGRAPHERS, PRINTERS AND BINDERS
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MUD CREEK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

MUD CREEK CHURCH, October 14th, 1892.

The Twenty-first Annual Session of the Mud Creek Baptist Association was held with Mud Creek Church from the 14th to the 16th of October, 1892.

The appointee being absent, the Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder M. M. Wood, from Zechariah, 4th chapter, latter part of sixth verse: "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Host."

Prayer by Elder J. N. McFalls.

A recess of one hour was taken for dinner. A most bountiful repast was served by the good people of the vicinity.

AFTERNOON SESSION, ONE O'CLOCK.

The exercises were opened with prayer by J. T. Gilbert.

The Moderator called the names of churches. The Delegates came forward with letters from their churches. By request of the Moderator, Brethren J. J. Waldrop and James K. P. Laird read the same.

The Association went into the election for Moderator and Clerk. A ballot was taken by M. M. Wood and J. E. Wilson and resulted in the choice of A. White as Moderator and A. J. Sumners as Clerk.

The Moderator called for newly-constituted churches; none.

The Moderator called for correspondence. Elder M. M. Wood was received from Birmingham, and also from the Ministerial Board of Education; J. E. Wilson from Tuscaloosa, and W. A. Merry and J. R. Moses from Harmony.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

DEVOTION—J. B. Sanford, W. J. Skelton, with the Deacons of this church.

DOCUMENTS—W. J. Gilbert, W. H. Wright, A. E. Landtrip.

NOMINATIONS—D. G. Knight, S. A. Parsons, W. J. Short.

FINANCE—J. J. Waldrop, S. V. Travis, L. T. Sanford.

HOME MISSIONS—A. J. Waldrop, J. I. Gilbert, R. B. Patten.

TEMPERANCE—J. H. Malden, J. N. McFalls, J. C. Hood.

SABBATH SCHOOLS—D. G. Knight, G. W. Cox, J. A. Reeves.

EDUCATION—A. J. Sumners, C. B. Hood, S. A. Parsons.

DECEASED MEMBERS—N. Megges, D. M. Waldrop, P. S. Hammons.

INDIGENT MEMBERS—S. J. Robertson, A. J. Payne, J. E. Parsons.

EXAMINATION OF ASSOCIATIONAL BOOK—S. A. Parsons, J. J. Waldrop, W. T. Narimore.

The Moderator then appointed J. J. Waldrop to read the Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

The Devotion Committee reported, and the Association adjourned.

Prayer by Elder J. E. Wilson.

SECOND DAY.

SATURDAY, October 15th, 1892.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Fifty-first Psalm was read for a lesson. Hymn in Psalmody, 623.

Prayer by Elder J. N. McFalls.

The Moderator then called for reports, which were made as follows:

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following: Seeing the great evils perpetrated by the use of intoxicants too numerous to mention, robbing homes of the absolute necessities of life; and seeing the great number of wives and children made widows and orphans, making them destitute and generally criminals, we therefore prayerfully recommend that this Association use all its influence in ruling out the curse from among us. Dear Brethren, we owe it to our God, the Church and the country to stop dram drinking. We earnestly appeal, in the name of our Maker, to our Brethren to cease it.

J. H. MALDEN, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Home Missions, report as follows: We recommend the report of last year.

A. P. WALDROP, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON DEVOTION.

We, your Committee on Devotion, report that Elder J. E. Wilson preach at eleven o'clock a. m.; services to begin by singing Hymn 947 in Baptist Psalmody. Subject, John, 3d chapter and 16th verse: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The Association was dismissed one hour for dinner.

EVENING SESSION.

The Association re-assembled for business at one o'clock. Hymn sung.

Prayer by Elder B. M. Waldrop.

The Moderator then called for the report of the

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your Committee on Nominations, recommend that the request of Hopewell Church for the next session of this body be granted; also, the Introductory Sermon be preached by Elder J. N. McFalls, Elder J. H. Molden, alternate; also, that Elder A. White preach the Missionary Sermon on Sunday. Hopewell Church is 14 miles from Quinton on the K. C. Railroad, west. Also, that the Association convene Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1893.

D. G. KNIGHT, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee on Documents, after examining the letters from the different churches, find only one request for the next session, that of Hopewell Church in Jefferson county, Ala. We also recommend that letters be granted Prude's Creek, New Providence and New Prospect, Pleasant Ridge and Antioch Churches.

W. J. GILBERT, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

We, the Committee on Finance, report as follows:

We have received for Minutes	$10.15
Associational Purposes	11.25
Total	$21.40

J. J. WALDROP, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, submit the following: By investigation we find but few of our churches engaged in this instructive work. Feeling, as we do, the great need of the Word of God being taught to our children, and considering, as we do, that there is no better place for this work than in the Sunday School.

D. G. KNIGHT, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Report that there is a greater necessity for educating the youths of our land than ever before. The rapid development of the material resources of our country has brought and still continues to bring into our midst influences against which the rising generation can not contend without preparation. As the State schools are not allowed to teach religion in any form, and as we cannot afford as Christians to educate our children without religious influences, it becomes us as a great and growing body of Christ's followers to see that schools owned and controlled by Christians are established all over the land. While we have no school in our own bounds except the State schools, we are glad to be able to point to Howard College at East Lake, the Alabama Central Female College at Tuscaloosa, and the Judson Female Institute at Marion, all of which belong to the Baptists of this State, as schools of high order and worthy of our patonage, we desire also to report that the Baptists of the State will soon make an effort to establish high schools throughout the State, and commend the movement to the favorable consideration of our churches. In closing this report we desire to call special attention to the great importance of educating our young brethren who are called of God to preach. Education in every other department of life creates the necessity for education in the Ministry. We call the attention of the body to the Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., and Howard College, established for this purpose. Worthy young brethren who give satisfactory evidences of being called of God to preach are educated free of charge at these schools.

All of which we recommend to this Association.

A. J. SUMNERS, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON DECEASED MEMBERS

Report as follows: Mud Creek Church, Bro. P. A. Parsons, Sister Catherine Johns, Sister Julie Franklin, Sister Janey Rogers; Concord, Bro. James Salter, Sister Lelar Higgins; Rock Creek, L. J. Waldrop; New Providence, old Bro B. S. Thompson; Oak Grove, two, names unknown; Antioch, W. M. Sellars, Jessie Beck, Sister Dovie Turner—total, 14.

N. MEGGES, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON INDIGENT MEMBERS.

No report.

COMMITTEE ON EXAMINATION OF ASSOCIATIONAL BOOK

Report: That so far as we have examined find it correct.

S. A. PARSONS, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

Received of Finance Committee for Minutes	$12.50
Associational Purposes	10.35
Total	$22.85

J. J. WALDROP, Treasurer.

The body instructed the Clerk to have as many Minutes printed as there was money to pay for, with the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Abstract of Principles inserted.

Resolved, That we give our Clerk $8.00 for his services, and the Moderator the remainder of the Associational funds.

COMMITTEE ON DEVOTION

Reported: Prayer; services at 10 o'clock Sunday devoted to the memory of Elder B. S. Thompson and others who have departed this life; and also that Elder M. M. Wood preach the Missionary Sermon Sunday at eleven o'clock a. m.

J. B. SANFORD, Chairman.

Resolved, That the Association tender a vote of thanks to the good people of Mud Creek and vicinity for their unbounded kindness so faithfully displayed to us during our stay with them.

THIRD DAY.

SUNDAY, October 16th, 1892.

Prayer. Services were held according to appointment at ten o'clock a. m., conducted by Elder A. White. The eleven o'clock services began by singing 574 in Psalmody.

After prayer Bro. M. M. Wood preached a very interesting sermon, which was attended by great power and demonstration of the Spirit. After which there was a public collection taken up amounting to $13.41, contributed to the Ministerial Board of Education.

Adjourned to meet with Hopewell Church Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1893.

A. WHITE, Moderator. A. J. SUMNERS, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known as the Mud Creek Missionary Baptist Association.

ART. 2. It shall be formed of delegates from all the churches which may connect themselves with this body.

ART. 3. Any church may be admitted into this body by general consent of the members present at any regular session.

ART. 4. Any church may withdraw from this body at her own discretion, on proper application of dismission.

ART. 5. This body shall usurp no authority over the churches in our union, nor infringe on any of their internal rights, but merely be considered as an advisory council in all matters relative to their internal affairs.

ART. 6. The churches in the union shall transmit each annual session of the Association with a written communication specifying the names of their messengers and the state of their church since last session.

ART. 7. Every church in our union shall be entitled to three delegates. Any church failing to represent herself as above described, shall state her reason at the next session.

ART. 8. Newly constituted churches shall be admitted into our union by messengers bearing petitionary letters. If, upon due examination, they be found orderly and orthodox, their reception shall be manifested by the Moderator giving the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 9. The Association when convening shall be governed by a regular and proper rule of decorum, which she is authorized to alter or amend according to her own views.

ART. 10. At every session of the Association a Moderator shall be chosen by, and from among the delegates present, whose duty it shall be to see that all the rules of decorum be strictly observed, and take the voice of the Association on all subjects legally introduced. A Clerk shall be chosen in the same manner, whose duty it shall be to make proper and correct minutes of the Association.

ART. 11. The Association shall have power to drop from her union any church which may violate the Constitution or depart from the orthodox principles of the Gospel.

ART. 12. The Association shall furnish the churches with minutes according to the funds sent up for said purpose by the churches.

ART. 13. Queries that immediately concern the union of the churches, or introduced by a proper motion of the body, may be taken up and decided by this body.

ART. 14. The Association shall have a Treasurer, whose duty it shall be to receive all moneys from the hands of the Finance Committee and pay it out at the order of the Association.

ART. 15. There shall be an Association book provided, in which the minutes of every annual session shall be recorded.

ART. 16. The Association shall not adjourn any session until it shall have finished all the business on hand, unless it be in extraordinary cases.

ART. 17. Minutes of Association shall be read and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, if necessary, before the session rises.

ART. 18. Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any session when two-thirds of the members may deem it necessary.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

ART. 2. The Moderator shall be deemed a judge of order, and shall have a right to call to order at any time; also, it shall be his duty to see that the rules of decorum are attended, and to take the opinion of the Association on all questions properly brought before the body.

ART. 3. Any member not satisfied with his decision on any point of order may appeal to the Association on the same day that the decision is made, but at no other time.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a true record of the transactions of the Association.

ART. 5. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise and address the Moderator.

ART. 6. The Moderator when addressed for leave of speech shall signify the same by naming them or otherwise.

ART. 7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject under consideration, or use words of personal reflection, or with a view of calling to order for some particular purpose, and any motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association unless withdrawn by him who made it.

ART. 8. Every case taken up by the Association after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall put the question, and if necessary, the sense of the body may be taken by rising to their feet.

ART. 9. When anything is taken up by the Association it shall first be decided upon before another is proposed.

ART. 10. No person shall depart from the services of the Association without leave of the same.

ART. 11. The appellation of Brother shall be used in our address to each other.

ART. 12. The names of the members shall be called as often as necessary.

ART. 13. No person shall be indulged in any practice that has a tendency to interrupt in any time of public speech, or other practices that would dishonor the Association.

ART. 14. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speech as others, provided he appoint some member to take his seat while he is speaking, but shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided, then he shall give the casting vote.

ART. 15. No member of this body shall be permitted to speak more than twice on the same subject without first obtaining leave of the Association, unless to explain.

ART. 16. Any person breaking the Rules of Decorum shall be reproved, at the discretion of the Moderator, but only on the day the breach is made.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, three in one.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the Word of God and the only true rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

4. We believe in man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by his own free will and holiness.

5. We believe in the doctrine of election through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.

6. We believe sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the merits of Jesus Christ.

7. We believe the Saints will persevere in grace and not finally fall away.

8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and the true believers are the only proper subjects, and do conscientiously believe that the true mode of baptism is immersion.

9. We believe in the resurrection and general judgment.

10. We believe the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

11. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as have been called of God, and regularly baptized and approved by the church, and come under the imposition of hand by a presbytery.

12. We believe that none but believers have a right to the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POSTOFFICE.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Dismissed.	Expelled.	Restored.	Died.	Total Membership.	Minutes Funds.	Association Funds.	Rec'd by Letter.
Concord	A. White.....	Earnest	J. V. Norris, A. J. Payne, D. G. Knight	7	5	0	1	2	62	75	75	4
Hopewell	A. White.....	Toadvine ..	A. White, L. T. Sanford, J. B. Sanford.....	9	1	0	0	0	65	75	75	8
Rock Creek...	G. B. Vines....	Short Creek.	J. J. Waldrop, J. A Reeves, D. M. Waldrop.....	0	2	0	0	1	78	1.00	50	2
New Bethel...	T. P. Vanderver	Quinton	W. J. Skelton, J. C. Hood, B. M. Sater*.....	0	0	0	0	0	27	45	0	0
Mud Creek ...	J. N. McFalls.	Raybnrgh ..	S. A. Parsons, P. S. Hammons, S. V. Travis	1	0	0	0	4	56	1.00	1.55	5
Mt. Ida.....	A. White.....	Wilmington.	A. P. Waldrop, J. H. Knight, G N. Miller.....	0	0	0	0	0	32	85	50	1
Sardis.....	R. H. Blake....	Ager	J. E. Parsons, N. Megges, G. W. Cox	0	13	0	0	0	36	50	1.00	0
Free Will.....	J. H. Malden ..	Quinton	J. H. Malden, C. B. Hood, A. E. Landtrip.....	2	0	0	0	0	24	75	85	1
Smithville	O. J. Waldrop..	Toadvine ...	L. J. Burchfield, C. S. Smith, Jacob Smith, Jr....	0	1	0	0	0	24	1.00	50	2
Oak Grove....	A. White.....	Ezra	J. N. McFalls, W. H. Wright, J. W. Houton.....	8	4	0	0	3	82	1.75	0	7
Pleasa't Hill..	E. L. Nichelson	Toadvine ...	W. J. Short, Jack Hood, Pink Vines.....	0	5	0	0	0	28	1.50	50	0
Leodocia	T. P. Vanderver	Quinton	T.P.Vanderver, W.J.Youngblood,* A. J. Sumners	0	1	4	0	0	31	50	75	0
			[Absentees marked thus *] Total....	27	32	4	1	10	545	$10.80	$7.65	30

Prud's Creek, Antioch, New Providence, New Prospect and Pleasant Ridge Churches were dismissed by letter.

NAMES OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

G. H. Bean, J. N. McFalls, A. J. Batson, E. L. Nichelson, P. A. Wilkey, T. P. Vanderver, A. White, J. H. Malden, G. B. Vines.